Waiting list for STD/PCOs in Andhra Pradesh

4621. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public telephones operating in Andhra Pradesh presently;

(b) the number of such public telephones operating in Cuddapah district presently;

(c) whether there is any demand for more public telephones under the STD/PCO regime in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, what is the waiting list for such STD/PCOs in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, 77196 public Telephones are operating in Andhra Pradesh as on 1.4.2000.

(b) In Cuddapah district 2503 Public telephones are operating as on 1.4.2000.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As on 1.4.2000, 7304 applicants are in the waiting list for allotment of STD/PCOs.

Sankhya Vahini Project

4622. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal for forming the joint venture for the Sankhya Vahini Project was mooted in the meeting of the task force on Information Technology of Government chaired by Shri Chandra Babu Naidu on 5th September, 1998;

(b) if so, whether minutes of this meeting was formally adopted and confirmed;

(c) whether making such proposal including the identification of joint venture partner is consistent with the terms of reference of the task force; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?